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Program Enhancement Plan Child Welfare Case Process Committee Meeting Notes

May 4, 2005

1. Workgroup Meetings (Access/Initial Assessment and Ongoing Services)

Each workgroup met separately for approximately 3 ½ hours to discuss and review draft policies and other requirements related to the PEP.

The Access/Initial Assessment workgroup started with a review of the comments and recommendations received by BPP staff at the Public Child Welfare Conference as well as from email correspondence about the Access Standards. The group had a discussion about the lack of reference to “unborn child” in the Standards. Workgroup members shared what the practice was currently in their counties and gave suggestions on how the Access Standards should refer to these cases related information gathering, screening, and the urgency decision. Additionally, the group developed a list of pros and cons for streamlining the way Access reports are documented in eWiSACWIS.

The Ongoing Services workgroup began their meeting by discussing the focus groups with case workers related to barriers to engagement. The group gave input on the structure for the focus groups as well as generated questions for discussion. The focus group meetings will begin in June and will be held throughout the state.

The workgroup spent the rest of the meeting time discussing and editing the caseworker face-to-face contact policy.

2. Full Committee Meeting

The committee reconvened for the afternoon to discuss the draft Family Interaction policy. Discussed was a variety of issues related to this policy that included the requirements for family interaction between children and their families as well as workload and fiscal implications associated with the implementation of the policy. The full committee also provided the Ongoing Services workgroup with feedback that enhanced the content of the policy to assist in making it clear and concise.